

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 10155 181726Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 EB-07 IO-14 FEA-01 OES-07 NRC-07 ERDA-07  
ACDA-10 EUR-12 /133 W  
-----102433 182126Z /63

R 181337Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4786  
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 10155

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG, IN  
SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF NUCLEAR QUESTIONS

REF: NEW DELHI 10074

1. M.V. KAMATH, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT OF THE "TIMES OF INDIA", (JULY 17 ISSUE) REPORTS THE OPINION OF NRC COMMISSIONER VICTOR GILINSKY IN THE TARAPUR FUEL CASE. ACCORDING TO KAMATH, GILINSKY AGREED TO THE LATEST SHIPMENT, ALTHOUGH HE HAD DISSENTED FROM A SIMILAR DECISION A YEAR AGO, BUT STATED THAT "SEVERE INFIRMITIES REMAINED TO BE CLEARED UP" IF THE SUPPLY IS TO CONTINUE. HE AGREED THIS TIME ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD RULED OUT INDIAN REPROCESSING OF US SUPPLIED FUEL AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD INFORMED THE GOI THAT IT WOULD RECOMMEND AGAINST FURTHER SHIPMENT IF INDIA WERE TO EXPLODE ANOTHER NUCLEAR DEVICE. GILINSKY REPORTEDLY NOTED ADDITIONAL REMAINING DIFFICLTIES:  
(1) THE GOI HAS NOT GIVEN UNEQUIVOCAL ASSURANCES THAT US MATERIAL WILL NOT BE USED FOR NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES;  
(2) SIGNIFICANT INDIAN NUCLEAR FACILTIES ARE NOT SUBJECT TO IAEA INSPECTION; (3) INDIA'S "EXPLOSIVES"  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NEW DE 10155 181726Z

PROGRAM APPARENTLY WAS CONTINUING; (4) THIS EXPLOSIVES PROGRAM CONTINUED TO USE US SUPPLIED HEAVY WATER IN VIOLATION OF THE PLAIN MEANING OF THE MARCH 1956 CONTRACT. GILINSKY SAID THE SPENT FUEL STORED AT TARAPUR MUST BE CONSIDERED A "HOSTAGE," AND THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE US WILL EVER RECOVER IT APPEARS TO BE RECEDING. GILINSKY IS SAID TO HAVE CONCURRED IN THE NRC DECISION

BECAUSE OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S ANTI-PROLIFERATION STAND AND HIS COMMITMENT TO RENEGOTIATE THE PRESENT SUPPLY AGREEMENT.

2. THE JULY 16 "TIMES OF INDIA" WAS CRITICAL OF PM DESAI'S DECISION NOT TO CONDUCT FURTHER NUCLEAR TESTS. THE EDITORIAL RHETORICALLY ASKED WHEY THE DESAI GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE RELUCTANT TO INFORM THE INDIAN PEOPLE THAT IF ANOTHER PNE IS CONDUCTED THE US WILL TERMINATE THE SUPPLY OF FUEL TO TARAPUR. THE NRC HAS MADE THIS POINT EXPLICITLY. "... THE USA HAS BEEN DELIBERATELY DEVALUING THE POSSIBILITIES OF USING NUCLEAR TESTS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES IN ORDER TO KEEP THE HAVE-NOTS OUT OF THE SO-CALLED NUCLEAR CLUB AND THAT IT HAS MADE THE SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM CONDITIONAL ON THE COUNTRY GIVING UP THE RIGHT TO CONDUCT FURTHER EXPLOSIONS."

3. THE PRO-CONGRESS "NATIONAL HERALD" (JULY 16) EDITORIALLY TAKES PRIME MINISTER DESAI TO TASK FOR HIS DECISION NOT TO AUTHORIZE FURTHER NUCLEAR TESTS. THE DECISION "DOES LITTLE CREDIT TO THE COUNTRY OR TO THE HIGH OFFICE MR. DESAI HOLDS." THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND JANATA PARTY ARE ACCUSED OF SHIFTING POLICY FROM "LEFT OF CENTRE TO EXTREME RIGHT FROM GENUINE NON-ALIGNMENT TO A TILT TOWARD THE WEST AND AWAY FROM THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NEW DE 10155 181726Z

SOCIALIST COUNTRIES." BEFORE SUCH A CHANGE CAN BE CONSIDERED, THE EDITORIAL ARGUES, "MUCH LARGER EVIDENCE OF RADICAL REVERSAL OF AMERICAN "GLOBAL STRATEGY" AS IT IS KNOWN" IS REQUIRED. THE PAPER ALSO DEPLORED THE PM'S RECENT STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS "SPHERES OF INFLUENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA." IN CONTRAST TO THE UNITED STATES, THE "HERALD" ASSERTS, THE SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN HELPFUL AND SUPPORTIVE OF INDIA IN TIMES OF CRISES. "MR. DESAI AND THE JANATA PARTY SHOULD AT LEAST AVOID MAKING ENEMIES OF FRIENDS FOR ANY DUBIOUS ADVANTAGE THEY MAY HOPE FOR BY GETTING CLOSER TO THE UNITED STATES."

4. THE INDEPENDENT "STATESMAN" (JULY 16) ARGUED THAT INDIA HAD INDEED PAID A PRICE FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUEL TO TARAPUR AND IT WAS NOT NECESSARY THAT THE GOI PRETEND THAT NO PRICE HAD BEEN PAID. FIRST, INDIA AGREED TO DISCUSS WITH THE US WAYS OF CHECKING PROLIFERATION AND SECONDLY, THE GOI HAS AGREED NOT TO CONDUCT FURTHER PNE'S. IT REMAINED TO BE SEEN, THE "STATESMAN" OBSERVED, WHETHER WASHINGTON AT A LATER POINT WOULD INSIST

ON THE APPLICATION OF SAFEGUARDS TO ALL OF  
INDIA'S NUCLEAR FACILITIES. "THAT WOULD BE TOO HEAVY  
A PRICE TO PAY EVEN FOR THE FUTURE OF TARAPUR, WHICH  
IS DEPENDENT ON AMERICAN FUEL SUPPLIES."

5. THE QUESTION OF INDI'S POLICY CONCERNING  
NUCLEAR TESTING AND THE US DECISION TO SUPPLY  
ADDITIONAL FUEL FOR TARAPUR HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT  
OF EDITORIALS AND ARTICLES IN A NUMBER OF  
LESSER DAILIES OF VARYING POLITICAL HUES.  
IN GENERAL THE COMMENTARY HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF THE  
PM'S DECISION NOT TO PERMIT ANOTHER NUCLEAR TEST.  
THE COMMUNIST PRESS HAS BEEN HAVING A FIELD DAY  
ACCUSING THE GOI OF CAPITULATING TO THE US. GOHEEN  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 NEW DE 10155 181726Z

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, NUCLEAR FUELS, NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NEWDE10155  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770256-0414  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NEW DELHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770747/aaaaboog.tel  
**Line Count:** 136  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** b08c1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 NEW DELHI 10074  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1830130  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS COVERAGE OF NUCLEAR QUESTIONS  
**TAGS:** ENRG, IN, NRC, (KAMAH, M V)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b08c1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009